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9-26-06

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the citizens of Alexandria stand firmly committed to quality after-school programs because they:

- -Provide a safe, friendly learning environment for our children that boost their academic achievement;
- -Support working families by ensuring that their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;
- -Encourage families to become more effective partners in their children's education;
- -Build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people; and

WHEREAS, The Campagna Kids Program and the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs After School Programs, in cooperation with the Alexandria City Public Schools have provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality after-school programs are a critical link to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, "Lights On After-School," a national celebration of after-school programs on October 12th, promotes the critical importance of quality after-school programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities; and

WHEREAS, many after-school programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so serve that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2006 as:

"LIGHTS ON AFTER-SCHOOL!"

in the City of Alexandria and commit our community to engage in innovative after-school programs and activities that ensure that the lights stay on and the doors stay open after school.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 26th day of September 2006.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

On behalf of the City Council

of Alexandria, Virginia

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